

Amendment and Response

Applicant: Joonho Kim

Serial No.: 10/738,349

Filed: December 16, 2003

Docket No.: 2003P53927US/I331.118.101

Title: RANDOM ACCESS MEMORY USING PRECHARGE TIMERS IN TEST MODE

REMARKS

This Amendment and Response is responsive to the Non-Final Office Action mailed December 29, 2004. Claims 17-32 have been allowed. Claim 1 was rejected. Claims 2-16 were objected to. With this Amendment and Response, claims 1, 2, 8, 10, 12, 14, 15, and 16 have been amended. Claims 1-32 remain pending in the application and are presented for reconsideration and allowance.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cowles et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,995,426 in view of Johnston U.S. Patent No. 6,272,588.

Claim 1 has been amended to include precharge timers configured to "receive a burst end signal that indicates the end of a burst from one of the memory banks and in response to the burst end signal provide precharge signals to the memory banks". In the Office Action under Allowable Subject Matter, the examiner stated that there is no teaching or suggestion in the prior art to a burst end signal that indicates the end of a first burst from a first one of the memory banks as claimed in claim 2. Applicant respectfully submits that all features of independent claim 1 are not taught or suggested in the prior art and, accordingly, claim 1 is believed to be allowable. In view of the above, Applicant requests that the above rejection of independent claim 1 be withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner objected to claims 2-16 for being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant agrees with the Examiner's conclusions regarding patentability without necessarily agreeing with or acquiescing in the Examiner's reasoning. In particular, applicant believes that the claims are allowable because prior art fails to teach, anticipate, or render obvious the invention as claimed, independent of how the invention is paraphrased.

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Claims 2, 8, 10, 12, 14, 15, and 16 have been amended into independent form including all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In view of the above, Applicant submits that independent claims 2, 8, 10, 12, 14, 15, and 16 are in form for allowance and allowance of these claims is requested.

Dependent claims 3-7 further define amended claim 2, dependent claim 9 further defines amended claim 8, dependent claim 11 further defines amended claim 10, and dependent claim 13 further defines amended claim 12. Accordingly, Applicant believes dependent claims 3-7, 9, 11, and 13 are allowable over the art of record and allowance of these claims is requested.

Claims 17-32 have been allowed. Applicant agrees with the Examiner's conclusions regarding patentability without necessarily agreeing with or acquiescing in the Examiner's reasoning. In particular, applicant believes that the claims are allowable because prior art fails to teach, anticipate or render obvious the invention as claimed, independent of how the invention is paraphrased.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that pending claims 1-32 are in form for allowance and are not taught or suggested by the cited references. Therefore, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-32 is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's representative at the below-listed telephone numbers to facilitate prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Joonho Kim,

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this paper or papers, as described herein, are being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, in an envelope address to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 9 day of March, 2005.

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